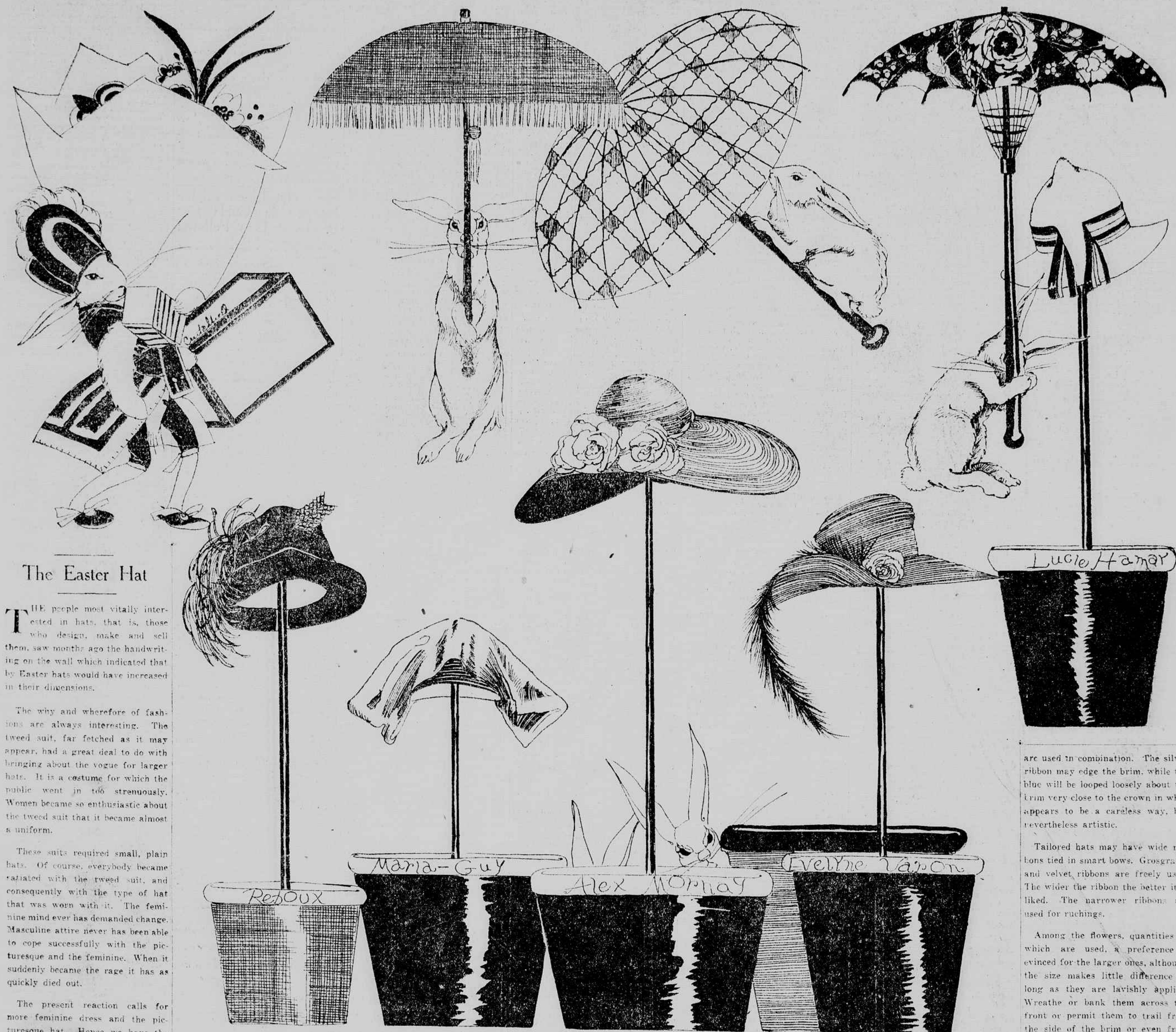


The Picture Hat Returns For Easter

BY SARA MARSHALL COOK



The Easter Hat

THE people most vitally interested in hats, that is, those who design, make and sell them, saw months ago the handwriting on the wall which indicated that by Easter hats would have increased in their dimensions.

The why and wherefore of fashions are always interesting. The tweed suit, far fetched as it may appear, had a great deal to do with bringing about the vogue for larger hats. It is a costume for which the public went in too strenuously. Women became so enthusiastic about the tweed suit that it became almost a uniform.

These suits required small, plain hats. Of course, everybody became saturated with the tweed suit, and consequently with the type of hat that was worn with it. The feminine mind ever has demanded change. Masculine attire never has been able to cope successfully with the picturesque and the feminine. When it suddenly became the rage it has as quickly died out.

The present reaction calls for more feminine dress and the picturesque hat. Hence we have the hat of medium size with drooping brim and those quite as large as the Gainsborough of old. We have, too, the poke bonnets affected by young girls.

Irregular Outlines And Softer Crowns

EVEN the suit hat has taken on softer lines and coquettishly turned down its brim. We still see any number of off-the-face shapes, but among the exclusive models this type may be said to be passing. It is no longer a style feature.

Crowns of hats, which may be said to be of more severe types, are done shaped, but they have little body and are of softer appearance than those used heretofore.

Large shapes are irregular in outline. In every way they give the appearance of softer lines. Many of them have fluttering flanges of transparent materials. The transparent mushroom brim is exceedingly good. Frequently a soft crown of straw may have such a brim of black lace. In many hats of this sort the crown is in a bright color such as periwinkle blue or in the muddy pink tone so much seen in the recent French importations.

Reasonableness appears to be the keynote in the materials for spring

and summer millinery. Just as we had felts for last winter, now we have straws for summer. There are few hats that have not some straw in their make-up. If the model is not entirely of straw it at least has either a straw crown, a straw brim or a straw trimming. Numerous straws are used, but one notices the prominence given to horsehair and other materials of a like thinness and transparency.

Among the fabrics French crêpes are seen. For midsummer there are many cotton hats such as those made of crêpes, either plain or embroidered in colored threads, and even calicos.

A New Pink Shade Combined With Black

COLOR is an important item in millinery. Everybody knows about the bright colored hats that came out early in the spring, so that the general statement that colored hats are being worn carries with it no news. But there are more subtle uses of color than the making of the bright red straw hat. A great many of the best artists in the world are

working with the heads of the various branches of the industry that pertains to the making of clothes for women in an endeavor to develop new and beautiful shades. Even the directors of our greatest schools of art have lent themselves to this movement. A toning of the very strong colors is a result of their work.

The decline of black opens the way for a new favorite. Two shades that our own American makers have chosen to popularize are periwinkle blue and mimosa. Of these the blue has taken tremendously; the yellow has not been able to quite keep pace with it, as yellow is not as becoming to the average woman as blue.

The French favor, in their millinery, new shades of pink very often used in combination with black. The shade previously referred to in this article as a muddy pink is very much in evidence. It is a subdued rose pink.

Changes in fashions are a wonderful stimuli to creativeness. The return of the larger hat has brought about more artistry in trimming.

We are working away from the untrimmed models. The advent of the larger hat sees a revival of the art of trimming.

Just as the dressmaker conceived the idea of introducing this spring a drapery on the one-piece gown of such simplicity and so artfully done that it required the hand of a skilled person to accomplish it, so the placing of the trimming on the new hats, to be effective, should be the work of some one trained in this art. This development in millinery is exceedingly encouraging. Few women will regret the high prices of present-day headgear if they are going to receive in return a real hat; that is, one which is more or less a work of art.

Trailing pheasant feathers, while a very simple trimming, give to a large drooping hat of brown Milan a great deal of dash. An ostrich plume is placed across the crown of a large poke bonnet of straw, thus making a picturesque restaurant hat. The plume very frequently is placed close to the crown on the left side and allowed to trail on the right.

A Novel Trimming Made of Dyed Cord

CONES from the whispering pines have been gathered by the milliner and discreetly used as ornaments. One huge pine cone may nestle in a swathing of silver tissue close to the crown of a drooping brimmed model.

In the purely country type of hat facings of bright calicos are seen. The cotton may again be used to form huge roses on the top of the brim at either side, thus weighting it and making it droop.

A new trimming for sports hats is one made of ordinary white cord such as is used to tie the market packages. This cord is dyed in beautiful shades and then joined together to form bandings and motifs. A smart mushroom in a greenish gray Milan shows this trimming in blue, the new dull pink and lavender, the blue and pink forming a double row around the crown of the hat and the lavender intermingled with the pink to form a motif on one side of the round crown. Pastel shades are much in evidence on hats of tan and gray, the colors blending beautifully on the soft backgrounds.

Beetle bugs and dragon flies have become fashion leaders and have alighted on the new spring hats. They may be said to be among the newest novelties in millinery. Made of a thin black composition they are most lifelike, with their glittering bodies and transparent wings magnified to many times their original size.

Why makers of ornaments should have chosen such unattractive subjects from which to copy nobody knows, but so glorified are the despicable fly and the humble bug that even the most fastidious is disposed to look upon them with favor. Naïve and marcasite treatments on flowers, birds and wing ornaments are profusely used.

Ribbons and Flowers Are Ornamental Rivals

RIBBON is much in demand as a trimming. The ribbons are very beautiful, and, if a plain ribbon is used, it is elaborated in some way such as by means of silver threads or even worsted yarns run through it to form a design.

Silver and blue ribbons frequently

are used in combination. The silver ribbon may edge the brim, while the blue will be looped loosely about the brim very close to the crown in what appears to be a careless way, but nevertheless artistic.

Tailored hats may have wide ribbons tied in smart bows. Grosgrains and velvet ribbons are freely used. The wider the ribbon the better it is liked. The narrower ribbons are used for ruchings.

Among the flowers, quantities of which are used, a preference is evinced for the larger ones, although the size makes little difference so long as they are lavishly applied. Wreaths or bank them across the front or permit them to trail from the side of the brim or even from underneath the brim, and you will have achieved the desired effect.

Most captivating of all the forms which the picture hat takes is the drooping shape draped with lace. Black shadow lace scarves fall over the brims and partly veil the face of may trail from one side in a single loop or end, or there may be an entire crown drape which sometimes falls over the brim of the hat and at others is tied at either side of the head and then allowed to fall. Again the harem method of draping a veil is adhered to with fascinating effect.

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Heavy Embroideries On Sports Models

IN SPORTS models the heavy conventional embroideries reminiscent of Russian and Egyptian inspiration may be said to be the mainstay of the milliner as a decorative motif. The colors are bright, and as a background for these embroideries a plain crepe hat may be used. Following the embroidered sports hats are those made of art brocades and even antique tapestries.

The bright colored felt hats brought out for the southern season are still very popular. One attractive model is of dull yellow felt with a Paisley handkerchief draped about it. Mauves and reds are prominent colors among sports hats.

A Cycle of Rings

SYMBOLISM and sentiment attach to rings more than to any other article of jewelry. Rings were worn from the earliest times as many fine examples of Egyptian rings testify—both for adornment and as a means of identification. Rings, in distinction from any other article of jewelry, are worn by both men and women. There is also the natural interest inspired by the engagement and wedding rings.

It is little wonder that rings have always been a favored item of personal adornment, and today, according to exclusive jewelers, they are being worn to a greater extent than ever before. But styles in rings change just as surely, if not so radically, as do styles in clothes. It is interesting, therefore, to learn from Cartier, of the famous house of international jewelers, what the fashionable world is wearing on its fingers.

The development of the ring from ancient times to the present day has been consistently toward a lightening of the hoop or band, and a emphasizing of the bezel or front portion, and later toward the mounting of the jewel set in the bezel. The consummation of this tendency is strikingly shown in the ring of to-day, whose setting is delicate and inconspicuous, while the stone itself is notable for size and magnificence.

Costly Rings With Brilliant Rare Stones

JEWELS in rings are worn much larger to-day than in former years, says Cartier. They apply equally to diamonds, rubies, emeralds and sapphires, which are the favored stones for costly rings. A solitaire diamond of six karats, that a few years ago would have been considered the size which could be worn in taste, is now only average.

The settings of all rings are, of course, platinum and as delicate as possible, so as not to detract in any way from the effect of the jewel. Four thin claws support the stone and in the case of pearls even the imperceptible circle of platinum holds the rich globe so that it gives the appearance of being suspended in air. Pearls are generally worn solitaires, but small diamonds sometimes used on the hoop of pearls. Emeralds of fine quality are rarer than diamonds and are generally worn unadorned so that the eye of the connoisseur may better appreciate their beauty.

Ornate Engagement Rings And Simple Wedding Bands

THE pronouncements of Cartier, the perennially fresh subject of wedding and engagement rings, are of interest to June brides and bridegrooms. Wedding rings start backward—are of several varieties. The plain gold or platinum hoop is used by both men and women. Cartier finds that more men wear wedding rings nowadays than formerly, and attributes this to the style for thin bands, which are comfortable and inconspicuous compared with the massive gold bands of former years. Carved wedding rings are also offered, but are considered in such good form. Sentimentalists will be glad to learn that plain gold bands are still the best sellers in wedding rings.

There is a very modern and attractive fashion of diamond rings for wedding rings. Square-cut sapphires or emeralds are used in these or are combined with diamonds. Symbolical of the wedded state is a double ring with dovetails so that no joining can be noticed. There is also a pretty idea in a ring made of two strands of gold of different colors intertwined. The initials are inscribed on the inside of the plain wedding ring. The idea of inscriptions, by the way, is very old, and we find in Roman and Greek rings such pretty thoughts as: "To the sweetest—happy."

For engagement rings, the diamond solitaire, which has already been described is a general favorite. The square diamond is as popular as the round. Colored stones are also being used for engagement rings, as witness the emerald engagement ring of Princess Mary. Sapphires are extremely popular and would seem to fulfill the old rhyme for brides. A new and costly conceit for an engagement ring is a perfectly matched rub and diamond or an emerald and diamond, a sapphire and diamond, together horizontally, the diamond in this instance also symbolizing the married state.